

PFLP claims rocket attack

DAMASCUS (AP) — A Palestinian faction said its fighters rocketed the northern Israeli settlement of Metulla early Wednesday, causing heavy damage and casualties. A statement issued by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), headed by George Habash, said the fighters "bombed the settlement" with rockets at midnight Tuesday (2300 GMT). The communique issued in Damascus said the salvo was fired by "one of our units operating behind enemy lines" in the western Bekaa Valley in southeast Lebanon. "The rockets scored direct hits which caused heavy material and human casualties among enemy lines," it added. It said all the guerrillas "were able to withdraw safely back to base." It gave no other details. Israel Radio reported that the rockets fell inside the so-called "security belt" Israel established in South Lebanon June 10 when it withdrew the bulk of its forces from Lebanon after three years of occupation.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تيمز يومية مستقلة تملكها المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الراي"

Security Council issues landmark call

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The Security Council, in a landmark decision, on Wednesday unanimously condemned all acts of hostage-taking and abduction and called for the safe release of all hostages. The resolution, adopted without any debate, was the result of a United States initiative, developed in consultation with the Soviet Union and other members of the 15-nation council. The resolution condemns unequivocally all acts of hostage-taking and abduction and calls for the immediate safe release of hostages everywhere. It affirms the obligation of all states in whose territory hostages are held to take all appropriate measures to secure their release and to prevent any future abductions. It also appeals to all states to consider signing existing international accords against hostage-taking, crimes against diplomats and offences against civil aviation.

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Baz stresses Syrian role

BAHRAIN (R) — Syria must become involved in moves for a peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict, a senior Egyptian official said in an interview published Wednesday. Osama Baz, a senior adviser to President Hosni Mubarak, told Bahrain's Al Akhbar Al Khalej newspaper that current contacts for a settlement were based on the Feb. 11 accord between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). "We are now working with two partners, Jordan and the PLO... but there will come a time when Syria has to be involved because it is party to the conflict and some of its territory is under (Israeli) occupation," Dr. Baz said.

Jordan to host APU conference

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan is expected to host the fourth conference of the Arab Parliamentary Union (APU) scheduled to be held on Feb. 25, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, reported from Damascus. The two-day conference will discuss the current Arab situation, and steadfastness in the face of decisive challenges facing the Arab Nation in addition to a number of pressing issues in the Arab arena, Petra said.

PLO expects attack in Sudan

KHARTOUM (R) — A spokesman for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said on Wednesday he expected an attack against PLO targets in Sudan. "We have placed our forces in Sudan on maximum alert because we expect a hostile offensive," Abu Rajal, PLO representative in Khartoum, told the official Sudan News Agency. He did not say who the attackers would be. Sudan has been host to 500 PLO fighters since PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and his followers withdrew from the Lebanese city of Tripoli in 1982.

UAE minister to visit Iran

TEHRAN (R) — United Arab Emirates (UAE) Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rasheed Abdullah will visit Iran on Dec. 28, Tehran Radio reported Wednesday. The radio said the visit was at the invitation of Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati to discuss "bilateral relations, consolidation and expansion of the grounds for the cooperation of the two countries and about issues relating to the security of the Gulf." Mr. Velayati visited the UAE earlier this month.

King Juan Carlos ends Oman visit

MUSCAT (AP) — King Juan Carlos of Spain on Wednesday visited Oman's air base on Masirah Island before concluding a three-day official visit to the Sultanate, officials reported. The Spanish monarch inspected Omani jet fighters and equipment based at Masirah which lies off the Sultanate's Arabian Sea coast, they said. The base is vital for Oman's defence of the strategic Strait of Hormuz which the Sultanate also straddles.

Lebanese militias revive peace talks

Envoys of 3 militias meet in Damascus

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Rival Lebanese militias started joint talks here on Wednesday with Syrian leaders in a fresh attempt to break the stalemate over a plan to end Lebanon's civil war.

The talks followed earlier separate meetings between Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam and representatives of the mainly rightist "Lebanese Forces" militia, the mostly Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) and the Shi'ite Amal militia. Mr. Khaddam, Syria's main peace broker in Lebanon, wants the three groups to end the country's decade-long civil war by the end of this year. Wednesday's talks, the latest in a long shuttle diplomacy interrupted by fighting in Beirut between PSP and Amal, renew hopes that an end to the civil war is close. The discussions are aimed at reviving a Syrian-backed peace accord, set aside when negotiations stalled a month ago. Sources close to the "Lebanese Forces" quoted by Reuters described the talks as "very positive," adding militia officials would continue their meetings "until a final peace accord is hatched in a matter of few days."

Iraqi president's visit to Moscow hailed as boost to Arab-Soviet ties

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's surprise visit to Moscow, which ended Tuesday night, was described as a success on Wednesday by the Iraqi media. "The unprecedented political and mass media attention given to the visit on both Arab and international levels proved its results would further develop not only Iraqi-Soviet but also Arab-Soviet relations," the ruling Ba'ath Party newspaper Al Thawra said. President Hussein had talks with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and Defence Minister Sergei Sokolov on the Iran-Iraq war, Soviet arms supplies to Iraq, and other Middle East issues. He also met Soviet Communist Party leader Mikhail Gorbachev and President Andrei Gromyko. During his two-day stay, President Hussein was accompanied by First Deputy Prime Minister Tahah Yassin Ramadan and Minister of State for Military Affairs General Abdul Jabbar Shamshah. Despite its neutral stand in the five-year-old Gulf war, the Soviet Union has supplied weapons to Iraq, its partner to a friendship and cooperation treaty. President Hussein, who arrived in Baghdad shortly before midnight on Tuesday, appeared on television to express "deep satisfaction" over the results of his talks with President Gromyko and other leaders, including Mr. Gorbachev. Arab diplomatic sources quoted by the AP said that the Soviet leadership responded favourably to President Hussein's quest for undisclosed quantities of sophisticated weapons which, they said, would decisively tilt the military scales in Iraq's favour against its war foe. The same Arab diplomats said that President Hussein tried to get the Soviet leaders to talk their Syrian friends into discontinuing their support for Iran against Iraq.

Ivory Coast restores ties with Israel

GENEVA (AP) — Israel and the African republic of Ivory Coast on Wednesday announced they are resuming diplomatic relations severed in the wake of the 1973 Middle East war.

The announcement was made after a meeting in Geneva between Ivory Coast President Felix Houphouet-Boigny and Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

Peres told a press conference that he expected that ties would be reestablished soon with two other African countries but declined to name them.

A joint communique read out by David Kimche of the Israeli Foreign Ministry said that in the meeting with the Ivory Coast president "Mr. Peres expressed his support for the policy of dialogue and of peace of president Houphouet-Boigny and expressed his conviction that that policy is applicable also within the context of the Middle East."

Peres told the press conference that he was confident that the two governments will support the decision.

Relations with Ivory Coast would increase to seven the number of African countries, in addition to white-ruled South Africa, with which the Jewish state has formal ties. These include Malawi, Swaziland, Lesoto, Liberia, Zaire and Egypt.

Christian-dominated sectarian political system.

The Beirut newspaper Al Joumhouria, which speaks for the Lebanese forces, said Wednesday Christian negotiators were proposing a 19-year transitional period during which Muslims would get an equal share of power.

The original draft had set five years for the transition.

Christians have dominated the government, parliament, the army and judiciary since Lebanon's independence from France in 1943.

Christians were then considered the majority. But Muslims now make up 55 per cent of the four million population, according to official estimates.

The "Lebanese Forces" also proposed an amendment that hostilities would cease within one year of signing the accord, instead of the six-month period stipulated in the original draft, Al Joumhouria said.

More than 100,000 people have been killed in the civil war and a string of inter-militia feuds.

President Amin Gemayel met with his Prime Minister Rashid Karami on Wednesday in a bid to reconvene the cabinet.

The full nine-man cabinet, which includes the nation's top warlords, has not met since April.

support for Iran against Iraq. Syria and Iraq have been at loggerheads over political and ideological issues.

In a speech at a banquet in President Hussein's honour, President Gromyko reiterated Moscow's neutrality in the war, which he described as unnecessary and mindless.

But alluding to Iran's call for the Iraqi government's ouster as a condition to a peace solution, Mr. Gromyko said such demands were "a foolish way" to try to settle political quarrels.

Al Thawra said Wednesday that Iraq "fully understands that all forces of liberation, progress and peace... support an urgent and peaceful settlement of the Iran-Iraq conflict."

President Hussein's visit took place amid reports that Iran is preparing a major offensive against Iraq through the southern Huwizeh marshes.

that might increase tension, and this is the state of affairs at the moment," Shamir said.

"We hope that Syria will not take additional steps that will force us to react," he said in remarks distributed by the government press office.

Shamir said Syria made no secret "that it seeks a military confrontation" with Israel once it feels strong enough to challenge the Israelis unaided by other Arab countries.

A senior Israeli official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said that firing the missiles at the Israeli patrols would constitute an escalation of the crisis.

"If they shoot, I assume we will think of retaliation, even if they don't hit," said the official in a briefing for foreign correspondents. He refused to be named.

Former Lebanese President Suleiman Frangieh has brushed aside the Israeli charge that Syrian missiles threatened Israeli planes.

"The Israeli enemy obtains all the destructive weapons he needs from America," the veteran politician told reporters. "Can anyone in the world object to our taking whatever measures we can to defend ourselves?"

The Jerusalem Post quoted U.S. officials in Washington as saying Israel would have to live with the consequences and tolerate, for the time being, the new missile deployment.



QUEEN OPENS NEW PROJECT: Her Majesty Queen Noor on Wednesday opens a new project in Salt to offer higher level education and practical training to excellent students (Story on page 3)

'Arafat to accept 242 and 338'

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Mr. Claude Cheysson, member of the European Community (EC) Commission for North-South Relations who is due here on Friday on a three-day visit, will be carrying an "EC contribution" to accelerate the Middle East peace process, informed sources said Wednesday.

The sources said that Mr. Cheysson's talks in Amman will focus on means to revitalise the Mideast peace process activated by the Feb. 11 accord between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), the five-year-old Iran-Iraq war and economic cooperation between Jordan and the EC, the sources said. The sources, who declined to be identified, did not elaborate.

During his stay in Amman, Mr. Cheysson, a former French foreign minister, will be received in audience by His Majesty King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, announced Wednesday. Prime Minister Arafat has been under pressure for months over the resolutions, which the United States insists the PLO must accept before Washington will speak to the organisation.

Mr. Arafat is due in Amman within two days, the paper said. Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres has accepted international auspices for direct talks with Jordan and a Palestinian delegation excluding the PLO.

In Bethlehem, the mayor, Elias Freij, made a Christmas wish Wednesday for Israel to open peace talks in 1986 with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

Mr. Freij spoke to foreign journalists visiting Bethlehem to see the preparations underway for the Christmas celebration next week in the city where tradition says Jesus was born.

"I hope to see peace next year between Israel and the Palestinians. We are tired of the situation, and the Jews are tired of the situation," Mr. Freij said. "I hope the Israeli government will have the courage to talk to a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation."

"Egypt and China maintain strong relations, which are 30 years old and are increasing in strength as the days go by," Mr. Wu said at the airport.

He said a major topic of discussion with Egyptian leaders will be the Arab-Israeli conflict.

There have been fast and complicated developments in the Middle East, and I have come to Egypt to get acquainted with these developments from our Arab friends," he said.

In a statement to the Middle East News Agency on the eve of Mr. Wu's visit, Mr. Abdul Meguid spoke of "close relations at all levels" between China and Egypt.

"The Chinese People's Republic always has supported the causes of justice and freedom, foremost among them the cause of the Palestinian people," he said. "It has backed the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, including the right to self-determination."

He said his talks with Mr. Wu would cover Arab-Israeli peace efforts, the Iran-Iraq war, Southeast Asian problems and ways to develop bilateral relations further.

Before his arrival here from Damascus, Mr. Wu conferred with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad on Israel's "aggressive plans," the Syrian news agency SANA said.

Mr. Wu's visit coincided with heightened tension in the region following Israeli warnings that Syria's deployment of SA-2 anti-aircraft missiles on the Syrian-Lebanese border posed a "threat" to Israeli reconnaissance flights over Lebanon.

SANA quoted him as saying China backed Arab solidarity to face "Israel's expansion."

Mr. Wu met other top Syrian officials during his visit, which Chinese sources said also dealt with the Iran-Iraq war, on which the two countries hold different views.

Cheysson expected to seek to revive peace process

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Wu arrives in Egypt from Syria

CAIRO (AP) — Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian arrived on Wednesday for a four-day official visit, part of a tour of the Middle East and Asia.

Mr. Wu is the highest ranking Chinese official to visit Egypt since Premier Zhao Ziyang came here in December 1982.

In Cairo, Mr. Wu's programme includes talks with President Hosni Mubarak and Premier Ali Lutfi as well as Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid, who greeted him at Cairo international airport.

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OPENING SOON
JORDAN SUPERMARKET
ABDOUN BRANCH

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.	
EMERGENCIES	
Ammian governorate	891228
Ammian civil defence	198, 199
Civil Defence Irbid	271293, 273131
Civil Defence Qawneishat	770733
Ambulance	193, 775111
Ammian downtown fire brigade	108
Fire	630341
Blood bank	778303
Civil Defence rescue	661111
Fire headquarters	62390-3
Police rescue	192, 621111, 637140
Police headquarters	639141
Traffic police	8963901
Electric Power Co.	636381/4, 624881
Municipal water complaints	771125/8
Queen Alia Int. Airport (06)	5333040
HOSPITALS	
Hussein Medical Centre	813813/32
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amm	644281/6
Akileh Maternity, J. Amman	643442/2
Jabal Amman Maternity	642362
Mallah, J. Amman	633140
Shamsiyya, Shamsiyya	664171/4
Palestine Hospital	669131
University Hospital	845843/63
Al-Musader, Hospital	67712/3
The Islamic, Abdali	665171/7
Al-Ahli, Abdali	664164/6
Isfahan, Al-Mutajreen	777101/3
Al-Baskir, J. Ashrafieh	77123, 1126
Army, Marjeh	891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital	602240/50
NIGHT DUTY	
AMMAN:	
Dr. Issa Haddad	897007
Dr. Anwar Mian	771020
Firas pharmacy	661912
Natrosch pharmacy	623672
University pharmacy	644554
Azzah pharmacy	770566
Mansh pharmacy	770910
Natsha pharmacy	672089
TAXIS:	
Al Hinnat taxi	641833
Al Ahli taxi	621127
Bassam taxi	811857
Tasee taxi	623024
Khalidun taxi	644888
Ramiz taxi	625095
IRBID:	
Dr. Issam Al Saleh	274722
ZARQA:	
Dr. Hisham Sharabati	986232
GENERAL	
Jordan Television	773111/19
Radijo Jordan	774311/19
Ministry of Tourism	642311
Hotel complaints	666412
Police complaints	661176
Telephone Information	12
Jordan and Middle East calls	10
Overseas calls	17
Repair service	11
MARKET PRICES	
(Fixed prices for imported produce)	
<i>Upper/lower price in fils per kg.</i>	
Apple	200 / 220
Beet	150 / 120
Chestnut	700 / 600
Coconut (each)	500 / 450
Garlic (with leaves)	220 / 280
Garlic (without leaves)	480 / 400
Onion (dry)	180 / 140
Potatoes	200 / 150
Sage (green)	350 / 300
09:30 Kuwait (RJ)	09:30 Anzlia (RJ)
09:35 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)	10:15 Cairo (AS)
09:45 Jeddah (RJ)	11:00 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
09:45 Cairo (RJ)	11:30 Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)
09:45 Ankara (RJ)	(RJ)
10:00 Damascus (RJ)	12:15 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)
12:05 Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF)	12:45 Istanbul (RJ)
13:45 Kuwait (KJ)	12:50 Larnaca, Zurich (SR)
15:10 Jeddah (SV)	13:00 Larnaca (RJ)
16:50 Larnaca (RJ)	13:30 Doha, Muscat (GF)
17:30 Cairo (RJ)	13:30 Cairo (RJ)
17:50 New York, Vienna (RJ)	15:00 Kuwait (RJ)
17:50 London, Paris (RJ)	16:40 Jeddah (RJ)
18:05 Athens, Damascus (OA)	16:40 Baghdad (RJ)
18:05 Frankfurt (RJ)	19:30 Riyadh (RJ)
18:10 Istanbul (RJ)	19:30 Kuwait (RJ)
19:30 Baghdad (IA)	19:40 Damascus (RJ)
20:35 Frankfurt, Damascus (RJ)	19:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
01:30 Baghdad (RJ)	20:45 Dubai, Karachi (RJ)
01:40 Belgrade, Istanbul (RJ)	20:45 Cairo (RJ)
	21:15 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
	21:30 Baghdad (RJ)
	02:35 Istanbul, Belgrade (RJ)
DEPARTURES	
06:30 Istanbul, Damascus (RJ)	07:10

Upper House refers budget, 7 draft laws to committees

AMMAN (J.T.) — In a brief session Wednesday, the Upper House of Parliament referred the 1986 draft budget law and seven other laws to its financial and legal committees.

Two amended laws for Jordanian lawyers, which were first passed in 1979, were referred to the legal committee for discussion and consideration.

A draft law for a loan financing an urban development project was referred to the financial committee. The project is to be financed under an agreement between the Jordanian government and the World Bank.

A draft law on standardisation and metrology and another on the pharmaceutical profession were referred for consideration by the legal committee. A law regarding invention rights for the year 1985 and a draft law for the Salt Municipality court were also referred to the legal committee.

At the beginning of the session Senators stood in silence for one minute to mourn the death of deputy Mutlaq Al-Hadid.

Public Security Department marks Arab Police Day

AMMAN (Petra) — The Public Security Department (PSD) along with Arab police departments, Wednesday celebrated Arab Police Day. Addressing a celebration held at the Palace of Culture, PSD Director Lieutenant General Abdul Hadi Al-Majali said that the ultimate goal of the public security services is safeguarding the public and is interests in our country and he added that there are continuing attempts to strengthen the relationship between the police and the public.

"In our present and future programmes, we are concentrating on the citizen and as we consider him the core of the security process and the corner stone for its success," Lt. Gen. Majali added. He also expressed hope that the good relationship between the public and the police will continue as he said that both citizens and the police are willing to establish balanced relations based on mutual confidence and respect.

Arab social security talks end

AMMAN (J.T.) — The first Arab conference of directors of social security corporations ended in Amman Wednesday with a call on Arab governments to maintain contacts with the International Social Security Association (ISSC), especially regarding the implementation of projects which would benefit Arab social security corporations.

The conference, in its final statement, called on Arab governments to be represented in all international and regional conferences and those organised by the ISSC and to enable Arab social security corporations to increase their investments in development projects.

The statement said that a detailed study on the activities of Arab social security corporations should be submitted to the next Arab conference to be held in Baghdad.

A spokesman for the conference said that the Baghdad meeting will discuss a report summing up the activities of the Arab Labour Office in the field of social security and social security affairs in general. The spokesman said that the conference has set up a committee comprising Jordan, Libya, Iraq and Saudi Arabia as well as the Arab Labour Office to prepare a draft statute for establishing an Arab social security association.

At the end of the conference, which was attended by delegates from eight Arab states, the participants sent a cable to His Majesty King Hussein voicing appreciation for the facilities provided by Jordan and they paid tribute to the King's endeavours to bring about economic and social development in Jordan.



Her Majesty Queen Noor visits a classroom of the parallel programme for gifted students, which she inaugurated in Salt on Wednesday (Petra photo)

Sudanese military delegation watches field demonstration

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Sudanese military delegation, currently on a visit to Jordan, Wednesday called at field medical units and watched a demonstration of evacuating casualties from a mock battlefield.

The delegation, comprising Lieutenant General Dr. Ahmad Abdul Aziz — the medical corps commander — and his deputy, later called at the Martyr's Monument and met with Armed Forces Commander in Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and Army Chief of Staff Fathi Abu Taleb.

The delegation, which arrived here Tuesday morning, met with the commander of the Royal Armed Forces Medical Services Dr. Daoud Hanania and senior medical staff who briefed them on the role and the services of the medical corps.

Later the delegation toured sections at Al Hussein Medical City and were briefed on their services. The delegation is due to leave Amman for home on Saturday afternoon.

Team to investigate Chinese shale oil extraction methods

AMMAN (R) — A Jordanian technical team left for China Wednesday to investigate whether Chinese methods of shale oil extraction can be applied in Jordan.

The Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said the team's two-week tour was agreed upon during a visit here by Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian, which ended last Monday.

His Majesty King Hussein told parliament last month the government hoped to set up a plant capable of extracting 50,000 barrels per day (bpd) of oil from shale.

Jordan's crude oil finds so far have not been commercially viable and it remains dependent on neighbouring Saudi Arabia and Iraq for oil imports worth some \$600 million a year.

Official estimates put shale oil deposits at Lejoun in southern Jordan at 1.3 billion tonnes and deposits have also been found elsewhere in the country.

Cyprus airport authorities arrest Jordanian passport holder

NICOSIA, Cyprus (Agencies) — An Arab man, who was arrested trying to board a jet at Larnaca airport with guns and grenades concealed in wine bottles, was remanded by a Cyprus court on Wednesday to eight days in custody while an investigation of the case continues.

Police inspector Yiannakis Christodoulou identified the man as Sami Anis Maroun Nasser, a Palestinian holding a Jordanian passport.

Nasser was arrested by security officers at Larnaca airport in south Cyprus on Tuesday night when his hand luggage was found to contain two Italian-made Beretta pistols, three hand grenades, one pistol equipped with a silencer, two magazines and 91 bullets.

The weapons were found concealed in two "unusual looking" wicker-covered wine jugs, Christodoulou told the court. He said that the bottles had been cut off the jugs, the weapons placed inside and then the jugs had been resealed and filled with ink and liquor to try and conceal their contents.

Nasser was arrested as he prepared to board a Swissair flight to Amman. Police said his final destination had been the United Arab Emirates.

The Swissair flight had arrived in Larnaca from Zurich. It carried 50 passengers, 30 of whom disembarked and the rest were in transit to Jordan. The flight was delayed by 19 minutes while the arrest was made.

Christodoulou told the court that two other foreigners may have provided Nasser with the weapons in Cyprus. On Tuesday, police said they were searching the airport for three other persons who were believed to have been accompanying Nasser but who did not check in for the flight. Police sources said the three were believed to have lived in the southern city of Limassol and identified one of them as Abdul Latif. Police later arrested two other suspects in connection with the case.

The guns and grenades had been hidden inside Chianti wine bottles which had been sawn off at the base and resealed. A police source told Reuters the concealed arms escaped detection by X-ray equipment at the airport security checkpoint and that they were found by an alert officer searching hand luggage.

Queen opens 'parallel education programme for gifted students' in Salt

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Her Majesty Queen Noor on Wednesday opened a new ambitious project entitled "the parallel education programme for gifted students" organised by the Salt Development Corporation (SDC) in cooperation with the University of Jordan.

The project, located in Salt, offers higher level education to excellent students in computer sciences, physics and chemistry, music and arts and has the necessary equipment to provide practical training.

The project received the Queen's attention since its start and Her Majesty offered moral and material support to it through the Royal Endowment for Culture and Education.

The endowment, which is now part of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation, now seeks to spread of the programme in other parts of the Kingdom as a parallel project to the Jubilee School which was announced during celebrations marking the 50th birthday of His Majesty King Hussein.

Following the inauguration ceremony on Wednesday, the Queen visited the various sections of the project and inspected the methods applied in supplementing the education of some 200 students benefiting from the programme, which aims at developing their abilities and talents in the secondary stage of their education.

At the outset of Wednesday's opening ceremony, the chairman of the board of directors of the SDC, Mr. Jafer Shami, thanked the Queen for her continuous support of the project, the first of its kind in Jordan.

The gathering at the ceremony presented the Queen with a commemorative plaque on the occasion. It was presented by Balqa Governor Mithal Al Khreish on behalf of the people of the governorate.

The opening ceremony was attended by senior officials from Balqa, SDC members and members of the board of directors of the Royal Endowment for Culture and Education.

He said proper atmosphere is created for the students to help them acquire creative skills, and their work is constantly being guided and supervised by at least 20 qualified instructors and teachers specially selected for the project.

Normally, the school accepts male and female students who excel in their third preparatory schools and passed the Ministry of Education examinations with distinction, Mr. Abu Taleb said.

The first batch of 90 students were accepted in the 1984-1985 scholastic year but this figure will rise to 270 by the beginning of the 1986-87 scholastic year, Mr. Abu Taleb said.

He said by then the total cost of training these students will reach J.J. 110,000 up from J.J. 50,000 at the beginning of the 1984-85 scholastic year.

The students have excellent facilities to help them acquire more training and get more education. The SDC has provided a library, computers and typewriting machines, musical instruments, laboratory, television and video sets and lecture halls.

Mr. Abu Taleb said students conduct extra curricular activities mainly in the summer, like setting up a scouts camp, going on trips to archaeological sites and visiting educational and cultural centres. In January, the students plan to make a trip to Egypt, Mr. Abu Taleb added.

Housing Bank contributes JD 17m to UDD projects

AMMAN (Petra) — A statistical bulletin issued by the Housing Bank has revealed that the bank contributed more than JD 17 million towards the construction of homes for families with limited income within two housing projects being carried out by the Urban Development Department (UDD).

In one of the two projects, to which the bank contributed JD 7.2 million, the UDD is improving the condition of 4,800 housing units in the poor districts of Jofa, Wadi Al Haddajeh, Nuzha and East Wihdat in the Amman region. These areas, the bulletin said, are being supplied with roads, water and electricity networks and health centres. The first project also entails building 5,000 new housing units, complete with all public utilities at Ruseifa, Oweimeh and Marka in the outer districts of the capital, the bulletin said.

New society plans to develop rural districts in Mafrag

AMMAN (J.T.) — A newly established society which aims at encouraging people to move back from urban to rural regions in Jordan will soon embark on a wide-scale programme for developing rural districts in the Mafrag region.

Last week Minister of Labour and Social Development Khalil Al Haj Hassan gave his consent to the establishment of the society which will be based in Zarqa and which groups representatives of Bani Hassan tribes in the Zarqa and Mafrag regions.

One of the founders of the society is Sheikh Jalal Al Qallab, who is also a member of the Lower House of Parliament, said in a statement to the local press that the society will give due care to the development of land in the Mafrag region which has been neglected due to the continuous migration of local inhabitants to major cities in Jordan.

Neglected land Not only was the land neglected, it was also being used for agriculture and other purposes.

Iraqi transport official chairs ILTC meeting

AMMAN (J.T.) — The board of directors of the Iraqi-Jordanian Land Transport Company (ILTC) held a meeting here Wednesday under the chairmanship of Mr. Ghassan Radwan, under secretary of the Iraqi Ministry of Transport in his capacity as chairman of the ILTC board of directors.

The meeting studied a number of subjects on the board's agenda which included the company's financial situation and plans for the coming year as well as a budget for 1986.

National work team studies computerisation

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A ministerial committee entrusted with spreading computerisation in Jordan has formed a national work team which comprises public and private sector representatives to act as a consultative body for the committee and to advise them on certain issues regarding the future plans for computerisation in Jordan.

The committee, which was established in September by a cabinet decision, will supervise the spread of computers among the public sector and in education and will raise public awareness on the importance of computers for Jordan's modernisation. The cabinet later issued a decision exempting all computers from customs to promote the use of computers.

The national work team has started its work on six major activities to organise a national programme for spreading computer awareness, to establish a code of practice for the government to regulate the introduction and purchase of computers by the public sector and to assess the importance of establishing a national data bank in Jordan, a team representative told the Jordan Times.

The representative added that the team has other activities including forming a society to regulate the computer profession in Jordan, studying the issue of computer telecommunications in the country and abroad as well as assessing the importance of computers in educational programmes.

The team, which meets once a week, comprises four representatives from the private sector and seven from the public sector and they will carry out consultations with other computer consultants in Jordan.

The national team will also study any suggestions which are presented to it by the ministerial committee which includes Minister of Planning Abdullah Al Nsour, Minister of Finance Hanan Odhe, Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Taher Kana'an and Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib and on which the team bases its recommendations after thorough studies.

According to the source, the most important activities of the team remain setting a code of practice for the public purchase of computers and the study of a national data bank which is part of Jordan's 1986-1990 development plan. Until now, there has been no agency regulating the purchase of computers for public use and the code of practice aims to ensure the compatibility of systems and the maximum use and efficiency of computers among public institutions.

The standards to be recommended for the purchase of public computer systems will not be rigid but are expected to develop according to the needs of the departments, the source said.

Data bank

The national data bank will include all essential information about Jordan needed by decision makers when they adopt and implement any national programmes. The national data bank will also connect with several other data banks in Jordan for full integration and exchange of data. Each ministry will still have its own system but the vital information supplied by each ministry will be summarised by the national data bank and presented in a way which can be used by decision makers, the representative said.

The estimated cost of the national data bank has not been announced but the source said there will be "no great expenses" since the national data bank will gather all the information which is supplied by the ministries and public departments. He also explained that any national data bank can never be thoroughly complete

since the data gathered by computers is an ongoing process which needs to be constantly updated.

Computer telecommunications

The committee will also study the issue of computer telecommunications in linking Jordan with an internal network and an international one. Minister of Communications Muhieddin Al Hussein has announced that the ministry is currently planning a system for computer telecommunications in Jordan to be used by both the private and the public sectors.

Applications in education

Another task to be undertaken by the team is to study the effect of computers in education and the types of programmes to be used in schools. The study will be conducted in cooperation with the Ministry of Education during 1985/86 academic year and the ministry has already allocated 20 computers in some schools and intends to raise the number to 100 sets.

The team will also prepare recommendations for a national programme to spread computer awareness in the country and it will

organise intensive campaigns such as interviews, newspaper reports and radio programmes outlining the importance of computers in technology and modernisation as well as the role they play in transmitting, analysing and gathering information.

The team has no executive powers but is a consultative body for the ministerial committee. The national team includes: Dr. Abdullah Al Rifai, owner of a software house; Ms. Mouna Al Nabulsi, owner of a computer consultancy agency; Mr. Bassam Ma'alah, representing a computer company, and Mr. Ghassan Abdullah from the Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation.

The seven-members representing the public sector committee are: Dr. Youssef Nsour from the Royal Scientific Society; Dr. Marwan Muasher from the Ministry of Planning; Mr. Fakher Anchari from the Jordan Electricity Authority; Mr. Awad Al Shubul from the Income Tax Department; Mr. Mohammad Hashem from the Ministry of Finance and Mr. Samir Kawar and Mr. Mohammad Al Dabbas, both from the Telecommunications Corporation.

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By Franz Schumann

VIEW FROM AMERICA

Americans on terrorism: Keep civilians out of it

SAN FRANCISCO — Terrorism is a lot on the mind of American public opinion. The reason is clear: Increasingly Americans are becoming key targets of terrorists. When the Egyptian plane hijacked to Malta, an American woman was the first to be killed. In West Germany, around the same time, a U.S. military shopping centre was the target of an attack. And earlier this year there have been similar incidents.

Millions of Americans travel throughout the world every year. Tourism is big business. Business travel is even bigger business. There would be no world economy without large-scale international air travel. American soldiers and diplomats fly constantly all over the world. It is impossible for the U.S. government to protect them against terrorist attacks.

The Israelis have long had a policy of not negotiating with terrorists. If terrorists take hostages, they assume the hostages are going to die anyway, and make preparations for a mil-

itary strike against the hostage-takers. The Israelis call the PLO "terrorists." That is a way of indicating they will never negotiate with the PLO. President Reagan and Secretary of State Shultz express a similar policy toward terrorist seizure of hostages. Yet in practice, the U.S. has taken a different approach. When a TWA plane was hijacked last June, Washington secretly made contact with various parties. It waited and waited until finally the hostages were released. The Carter government waited for fourteen months until the American hostages in the Tehran Embassy were released.

If the U.S. acted the way the Israelis do, then that would risk many more hostage deaths. That could result in a drop in air travel with serious economic consequences. At the same time, the U.S. public demands that the lives of international travellers be safeguarded. If not, tourism could drop. The revenues of many countries depend on tourism. That too could produce severe

economic misery in the countries affected.

It is not that easy for a government simply to shoot it out with hijackers. Egypt's government now is experiencing considerable embarrassment over the high death toll in the Malta hijacking episode. It has

gone to great pains to emphasise that the hijackers were already killing passengers. In Colombia, over one hundred hostages were killed when government troops stormed the Ministry of Justice. Anger is mounting in Colombia against this action.

The world knows little about terrorists. But two things about them can easily be assumed: They are, first, obsessed with power and politics, and second, they are willing to die as they are to take the lives of their hostages. And thirdly it can also be assumed that terrorists believe that a terrorist act could just possibly change the course of history. In 1914, one assassin did that. A young Bosnian student assassinated the Austrian archduke Franz Ferdinand, and so sparked World War I and the breakup of the Austro-Hungarian empire.

The dilemma that governments face is that while the hijackers want to deal with them, the governments do not want to deal with the hijackers. They fear opening the door to oppositional and subversive elements.

Yet it is not so easy any longer simply to assume that hostages are just obstacles in the way of getting at the terrorists. It is also becoming more and more difficult to assume that

civilians are also just obstacles in the way of military combat. Too many civilians killed in warfare can wreck an economy. And it can arouse moral anger. The Israelis discovered that in Lebanon. Perhaps a similar anger has risen in Iran where so many young men have died in the war.

In the U.S. there is growing sentiment against any kind of nuclear war. Nuclear bombs in effect kill millions of civilians who can be seen as hostages to war. Such a war would destroy economies as well as lives. In the U.S. there also is growing sentiment against anti-terrorist tactics that could result in large-scale loss of hostage life. People want the terrorists dead but the hostages alive. The attitudes may be confused but they imply approval for a complex rather than a simple response to terrorism.

Terrorism is emerging as a new form of warfare. Public opinion in the U.S. appears to favour rules of warfare that would keep civilians out of range of the cross-fire.



The way to get after these people is to get after them with both barrels. — George Shinn

Closer ties with expatriates

THE Foreign Ministry has just sent out invitations to a number of departments and organisations connected with the affairs of Jordanian expatriates to discuss the implementation of resolutions and recommendations by the first Jordanian Expatriates Conference which was held in Amman last July. In announcing the meeting, which is to take place in the coming few days, the ministry said that Jordanian embassies abroad have been sent additional staff to help handle expatriates papers and passports and to help keep channels of communications open with these expatriates.

When the first expatriates conference was held it was hailed by many as a great step towards bolstering expatriates' ties with their country, and the participants who came from many nations around the globe aired their views on all matters which they felt were of real importance to them and to Jordan. Their views were given an enthusiastic welcome here, and when they left, they were under the impression that a concrete response would soon emerge for their requests.

Jordan appreciates the work being done by its citizens abroad, strengthening their country's ties with other nations and sending back savings to be invested in national development projects. A working paper read out at a Syrian expatriates conference, held in Damascus on Dec. 7, referred to the expatriates importance to their country. The paper revealed that around 325,000 Jordanians are now employed abroad, 85 per cent of whom are in the Gulf states and that in 1984 alone they remitted JD 475 million to Jordan, helping to adjust the country's balance of trade and replenishing the nation's foreign currency reserves. The paper made it clear that Jordan needs to maintain strong ties with its workers abroad and, as a first measure, it said embassies should take steps to help this to come about.

It is true that the government has promised to include the expatriates in the country's social security scheme and pledged to facilitate expatriates' investments in this country's development projects.

But it seems that no more than this has been done and that the Foreign Ministry's department entrusted with looking after these affairs has done very little so far to meet the aspirations of Jordanian expatriates. Indeed, it took the Foreign Ministry six whole months to come up with the idea of convening a meeting of concerned departments to look into ways of implementing the conference's resolutions.

We believe that more serious efforts should be made to ensure that the second conference will be more successful than the first, but above all we have to start thinking of new and creative ideas that would make the story of our expatriates and us a success.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: U.S.-Israeli aggression

THE Israeli enemy has raised a storm over Syria's deployment of anti-aircraft missiles in its own territory and is being supported in this by the United States which always is in the side of what is dangerous and what hostile to the Arab nation. The Syrian armed forces have all the right to deploy all that is needed for the defence of the Syrian territory and the Arab homeland and the Israelis and the Americans have no right to object to this. What we understand from the U.S.-Israeli alliance's objection to this deployment is that they both want to escalate aggression against Syria and to impose hegemony on the whole of the Arab nation. Israel does not want the missiles because they impede its aggressive plans against the Arabs. The United States give backing to the Israelis in their position and finds justification for the enemy's threats to the Syrians. How can we explain Washington's justification for Israel's continued aggression on the Arab nation, its invasion of Lebanon and its raid on the Iraqi nuclear plant? How can we explain Washington's continued support for Israel in perpetuating its occupation of Arab land in Palestine and the Syrian Heights? The United States is adopting hostile attitudes against the Arabs because the U.S. feels that the Arab nation can do nothing in return and can never build up its force to defend itself and regain its rights.

Al Dustour: Preparing for war

IT is only natural for Syria to deploy missiles in its own territory for defensive purposes and no one has the right to tell the Syrians how to defend themselves against Israeli aggression. Israel has been protesting against this deployment because it has hostile intentions towards Lebanon and Syria and because the Syrian missiles are there to prevent it from achieving its ends. But we are more surprised to see the Americans adopting an extremist attitude over this issue. The United States secretary of state said that Israel has the right to maintain reconnaissance flights over Lebanon in a move to fuel the situation and make Israel escalate its aggression and threats against Syria. Instead of preventing Israel from committing a rash act against Syria, the U.S. is trying to push Israel towards the verge of war with Syria by announcing that Israel has the right in what it is doing in Lebanon. Israel's threats and the unlimited and blind support it continues to get from the United States constitute an open preparation for war and a new Zionist aggression on the Arab nation. Our long experience with the machinations and evil intentions of our Israeli enemy makes us always alert and watchful. This alertness should be maintained.

Sawt Al Shaab: Friends and foes

IT is rather difficult to try to interpret U.S. policies with regard to the Middle East, which are now taking a trend towards extremism. We are not surprised that the United States and Israel were against the idea of an international conference, but we cannot understand Washington's insistence on its position until now while the Israelis have been lately showing some concessions over the issue. Similarly, as Israel is toying down its aggressive stand towards Syria over the deployment of Syrian missiles, the United States continues to adopt a different stand that tends to provoke the Israelis and to escalate the situation. In another instance, we find the United States telling the world that the Israelis have been cooperating with American estigators in the espionage affair, while the Israelis were saying that such cooperation never took place. The United States, through these attitudes, is not only defending the Zionist stands but is showing more extremism than Israel. It seems that the United States policies at present are not any where like those adopted in the past, and therefore there can be no justification for the Arabs to rely on them any more.

Ershad chases the votes

By John Elliott

DHAKA — "You students have education. It's your job and duty to tell the people in your village to boil pond water before they drink it. Do you expect the government to boil the water for you? This isn't America, you know; this is a poor country and you can't depend on government for everything."

The speaker was President Ershad, military ruler of Bangladesh, who interrupted a helicopter tour of rural administration centres in the Ganges delta to investigate a suspected cholera outbreak in the village of Nilchit.

The tour was part of Lieut-General Ershad's bid to establish himself politically as a popular civilian president while at the same time checking on the efficiency of new local government centres.

The Bangladesh President has acted as host to the first summit of South Asian leaders, including Mr. Rajiv Gandhi of India and Gen. Zia Ul Haq of Pakistan. He is anxious to demonstrate that he is running a moderate style of military rule and is not an oppressive dictator.

"I intend to hold elections in 1986 and this time I am quite sure that they will take place on the declared date," he said in an interview in his Dhaka home.

He said he would not cancel the elections as he did earlier this year, just because opposition parties threatened to boycott them. Although he would not confirm dates until after he holds talks towards the end of the year with political parties, the elections are likely to take place in next March or April or in November.

"The opposition parties are afraid to go to elections," he said, citing a view widely held in Dhaka. "They have played into my hands and made a mistake by boycotting the elections and giving me more time — and maybe now I have earned the confidence of the people of the country." He described his military dictatorship as "more democratic than those who have ruled here in the name of democracy."

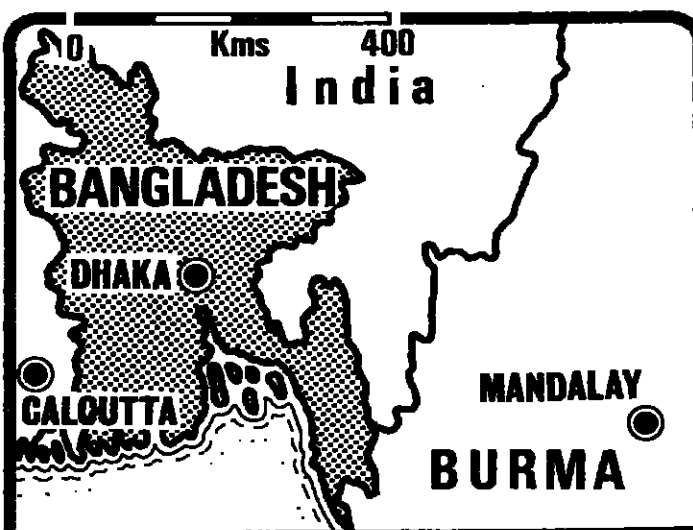
Gen. Ershad seized power in a bloodless army coup in March 1982 and has governed the country's 100 million population, 80 per cent of whom are below the poverty line, with relatively few major civil or economic problems. Earlier this year, in a referendum widely regarded as rigged, he was elected President until full elections are held. Although he has not formally declared himself a full Presidential candidate, he said: "If the people want me to be President, why not?"

His aim now is to establish sufficient support for himself and the parties which back him within a new Jatiya (national) Front so that he and they can be elected legitimately to full Presidential and parliamentary terms.

This would mean a defeat for the established opposition parties, apart from the Jamaat-i-Islami party, which has been gaining appeal in this gently-Muslim country. The others are rapidly losing credibility.

Martial law would end after the elections but Gen. Ershad wants a continuing role for the army, which at present has five of its 25 serving major generals in the Cabinet and other senior officers administering the regions and judicial system.

Some generals feel however that the time has come to pull back into their barracks and are worried about the army being weakened by corruption, which is increasing among some officers, especially those involved in the judicial system. But other officers are less keen to give up power and none is thought willing to pull out until Gen. Ershad is strong enough politically to defeat the old oppo-



sition. Like Gen. Zia in Pakistan, Gen. Ershad does not want his country's old political parties to return to power. Both are having considerable success in exposing and exploiting their parties' poor leadership, lack of popular policies, and general ineffectiveness.

In both countries, general apathy and despair about the abilities of the parties, rather than enthusiasm for the military rulers, have kept the two generals in power. In neither country is there any indication outside urban areas of a widespread wish to upset relatively benign administrations.

"The poor know they will be kicked by whichever government is in power, so why should they help the political parties which have failed in the past, when the new rulers might actually be worse than the army," says a distinguished former Bangladesh public servant.

General Ershad is credited by many people however for having introduced a new tier of legal councils which give devolved executive responsibility to elected representatives and increase local involvement in development schemes.

About 460 of the councils, called upazilas and covering an average of 260,000 people, have been set up in rural areas during the past two years, staffed by civil servants from Dhaka but headed by local chairmen.

Oman rushes into modern times

By Robert H. Reid
The Associated Press

MUSCAT, Oman — From its barren mountains at the mouth of the Arabian Gulf and across the desert to the lush banana fields on its southwestern coast, Oman is rushing to catch up with the 20th century while the oil money still flows.

A country that only 15 years ago spurned modern life is feverishly building roads, schools and hospitals, while its brightest youngsters are trained abroad.

Thanks to oil exports, which provide about 60 per cent of national revenue, bedouin nomads now drive Japanese trucks across plains that in 1970 had 10 kilometres of paved roads. And they pitch their tents within sight of satellite stations that link this once-hermit nation of 1.5 million people to the outside world.

In Salalah, a regional capital 1,000 km south of Muscat, families who once expected to lose two children in three to disease now receive free medical care in a well-equipped hospital.

White-robed men sit in the spotless waiting room cradling rifles, as much a part of local dress as their robes and turbans.

New communities of glass and concrete office buildings and smart villas — among the cleanest towns of the Middle East — sprawl over the hills on the eastern fringe on Muscat.

In contrast, about 80 km to the northwest, thousands of Omanis live much as their ancestors did, in mud-and-stone dwellings clustered among the palms of desert oases.

Omani officials acknowledge they have a long way to go to catch up with their richer neighbours, such as Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. The drop in world oil prices from \$40 a barrel six years ago to \$27 or less today has raised questions about whether the pace of development will continue.

Looking ahead to the day when its oil reserves of 4 billion barrels do run out, the government is trying to develop agriculture and mineral deposits, including copper, chrome and marble, as alternate sources of export earnings. "The problem is ... time," Edu-

cation Minister Yahya Bin Mahfoudh Al Matheri said in an interview. "Oman in 1970 was nothing. ... We are running, not walking, to get our infrastructure built."

Oman has been marketing oil since 1967. Its current production is about 500,000 barrels a day. At that rate, its petroleum reserves could last 50 more years, but the oil market and prices are unpredictable.

Oil income up to now has raised Oman's annual per capita income from \$100 to \$4,000. The accomplishments brought by the petrodollars and the desire to modernise have been staggering.

In 1970, about 90 pupils, all male, were enrolled in the three primary schools, the country's only educational institutions. Today, according to the Education Ministry, 225,000 youngsters are studying in more than 590 schools.

Forty-three per cent of the students are female, although a 1984 government study found that about half drop out in early grades because many parents believe their daughters have enough education if they can read and write.

The government plans to open the country's first university next year with 500 students. Meanwhile, more than 5,000 Omanis are studying abroad on government scholarships, mostly in Egypt, Jordan, Britain and the United States.

Since 1970, the number of hospital beds has grown from 12 to nearly 3,000, and teams of doctors and nurses roam the countryside teaching staff largely illiterate bedouin Arabs the rudiments of sanitation and health care.

The changes are largely the work of Oman's absolute ruler, Sultan Qaboos Bin Said, a 45-year-old graduate of Britain's Sandhurst Military Academy who has governed since 1970.

Sultan Qaboos came to power

in a coup against his father, Sultan Said Bin Taimur, who ascended the throne in 1932 and maintained a medieval society to keep his people safe from what he regarded as the dangers of foreign influence.

Once in power, Qaboos began a policy of reconciliation and development that the government calls the national renaissance.

With help from Iran and Jordan in 1975, Qaboos' largely British-officer army British influence in Oman dates back to 1798 — defeated a 10-year-old rebellion in the southern Dhofar province.

The young Sultan offered amnesty to those willing to give their loyalty and Omani exiles were asked to return and help build the country. Those who did were virtually the only Omanis who could read and write.

Because Oman has provided mass education for less than a generation, the country still relies heavily on foreigners — Egyptian and Sudanese teachers, Indian doctors, British civil servants.

The role of foreigners extends even to the military. Commanders of both the Omani air force and navy are Britons on contract to the Sultan. British commissioned and non-commissioned officers, including some on loan from regular British units, still serve in all branches of the military.

The United States also has a presence here. In 1980, U.S. military forces were permitted the use of Omani ports and airfields in exchange for military and economic aid.

Oman maintains a low profile in the Middle East political arena, although it lines up with other Arab countries opposing Israel. It was one of three nations of the Arab League — the others were Somalia and Sudan — that did not break relations with Egypt when it signed a separate peace treaty with Israel in 1979.

LETTERS

Praise to the critic

To the Editor

IT is with especial joy each week that I read the Saturday article of your TV critic, John Boteler. His amusing remarks and assessments of the coming week's programmes have given me many a chuckle, and I sympathise with him wholeheartedly when he complains of the number of occasions when the advertised programmes do not appear. There is nothing more irritating than to have waited patiently for maybe 15 or 20 minutes past the advertised time for the completion of the 8 p.m. news (i.e. 8.30) only for the sinking realisation to creep up on me (once again!) that my favourite comedy programme is just not going to appear — without an apology, or even an explanation.

I appreciate Mr. Boteler's explanation that it is usually not JTV's fault that some programmes do not arrive — this is obviously extremely embarrassing for them and is presumably beyond their control. But when the News is allowed to over-run by sometimes as much as 15 minutes for relatively unimportant news items, then it must be their fault. If American or British TV programmes over-run by as much as a few seconds, then heads roll, but, nevertheless, an apology is always made to the viewer.

Along with most other expatriates here in Jordan, I am extremely grateful to JTV for its Foreign Programme, especially as I am unable to speak Arabic, but I would really love to know why JTV has so often to transmit the same programme on both the Main and Foreign channels, thus severely limiting the advantage of having 2 channels. Then, later in the evening — sometimes only 5 minutes before the completion of the last programme — an often-absorbing thriller is interrupted for the News in Arabic. The spell is broken, and I'm sure that more than half of JTV's viewing audience switches off and goes to bed.

There's been an invention out for some years now called video equipment, so why can't JTV 'video' the 11 p.m. News, and transmit it at the end of the last programme for those who wish to see it. However, since by that time we've had the News in Hebrew, French, Arabic and English, surely the entire population of Jordan must just about know the contents of the News by heart.

So, JTV, how about a New Year's resolution? To stick to the published programme times, and also to tape the 11 p.m. News? Meanwhile, John Boteler, keep up the good work and congratulations to the editorial staff of the Jordan Times who enthusiastically support you, and that other critic of bureaucratic nonsense, Randa Habib.

Franklin Williams
Amman

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Prince Hassan: Islam is advocate of genuine peace among peoples of all races

Following is the full text of an address His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan delivered at the closing session on Monday of a meeting in Vienna of the Independent Commission on International Humanitarian Issues (ICHI). The Crown Prince and Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan co-chair the ICHI, which was established under a special resolution adopted by the U.N. General Assembly.

MANKIND today stands at crossroads. The possibility of unprecedented prosperity through technological knowledge is as great as the possibility of unprecedented catastrophe through ethical poverty. In this century, human wisdom has not kept pace with human knowledge. The gap between the knowledgeable and the ignorant, between the strong and the weak, between the rich and the poor continues to widen inexorably.

Peace and global security are prerequisites not only for economic development and social progress but for the very survival of mankind. Steadily but surely, there is a growing global awareness that we need to live together in peaceful co-existence, whatever our creed or colour and whatever our religion or belief.

It is, therefore, appropriate that, at this meeting, we should try to affirm the commonality of our interests and re-assert that the desire for peace is common among all men and that religions have common ethical values and identical teachings in so far as "peace-building" is concerned.

In our "search for peace," it is no longer enough for us to depend upon traditional methods of negotiations between diplomats and horse-trading between politicians and generals. There is need for a new consensus which must emerge from the common will cemented

by common values and beliefs.

Einstein once said, "Peace cannot be kept by force; it can only be achieved by understanding." Let me add that understanding is not possible without empathy and without constructive dialogue.

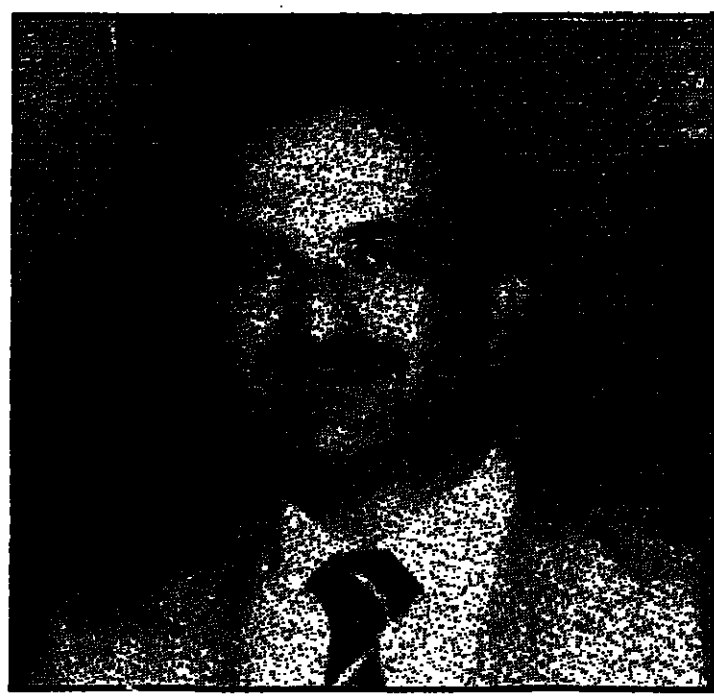
It is my pleasant duty at this meeting to comment on the Muslim view of peace. Let me start by recalling that the word "Islam" derives from a root which means "peace" and "submission." It is interpreted to mean the attainment of peace through submission to the will of God, through conformity to divine law and guidance. The Islamic concept of divine law includes all law governing and regulating the universe in which peace and order are deemed essential for material, moral and spiritual progress.

Among the tributes of God, the Koran mentions that He is the source of peace and the bestower of security. The Muslim greeting in all parts of the world is *Salam Aleikam* meaning "Peace be upon you."

It is said in the Koran: "Do not go about committing inequity on Earth and causing disorder" (VII: 75).

And again in Surah XXVIII, Verse 78, it is said: "Verily, God loves not those who seek to create disorder."

And in Surah Bakara, Verse 208 reads:



"O, You who believe, enter into complete peace and further not the footsteps of the devil."

And further, in Surah Al Hujarat, Verse 10 states:

"The believers are brethren so make peace between your brethren and keep your duty to Allah that mercy may be had on you."

The theme of peace runs all through the Koran and many more verses could be added to those I just cited. Likewise, many quotations could be provided from the holy books of other major religions to prove that it is not the message of God which varies on the subject of peace but the doings of men and the interpretations they may give to holy words.

Between Muslims, Christians and Jews, there are bonds of faith strengthened by common heritage. Let me here quote from Surah Bakara, Verse 136:

"Say: we believe in God and (in) that which has been revealed to us, and (in) that which was revealed to Abraham and Ishmael and Isaac and Jacob and the Tribes, and (in) that which was given to Moses and Jesus and (in) that which was given to the prophets from their Lord. We do not make any distinction between any of them..."

The point I wish to make here is that despite common ethics and beliefs, the history of the last thousand years and more, is full of

conflict and fighting between Muslims, Christians and Jews. It is incumbent upon us to analyse the underlying causes of conflict and, through common will, try to eliminate them. Gatherings such as this can help us in that process.

In recent years, we have witnessed the resurgence of religious faith in practically all parts of the world. It is an indication of man's desire, in face of the colossal challenges of contemporary society, to seek security and peace, once again, in the realm of religious faith. However, this phenomenon need not be seen as a return to the past or as anti-progress.

There is need, in Islam, as in other faiths, for what we call "Ijtihad, Jam'ee," a need to interpret religious tenets to meet the demands of circumstances. True Islam is against fanaticism and against intolerance. It is therefore a great pity that in some quarters, moderation and tolerance are giving way to blind belief and religious fervour which work against the attainment of peace.

It is even greater pity that the media often provide to the general public a biased view of the teachings of Islam.

Mr. Chairman,

For the general public, which is well-informed but not always well-informed, the image that Islam presents today is that of fundamentalism and fanaticism. In fact, the two seem to mean the same thing to most people. Of course, they do have common features. Both are divisive and destructive forces. But let us not forget that they are not uniquely a part of the Muslim history. In all major religions and faiths, they have and continue to play their unfortunate role. What should be taken into account are the basic tenets of religion. In the case of Islamic law, the *Sharia* teaches tolerance and moderation. In the Muslim World as elsewhere, these teachings must prevail if we are to build peace on solid foundations.

To ensure a safe and secure world for our children and to safeguard millions of our fellow human beings, it is essential that all men of good will, whatever their religion or country, struggle against divisive and destructive

forces.

Major faiths and religions of the world have a key role to play in the process of peace-building. It is a process which must begin from grass roots. It has been said that peace is too important to be left to politicians and generals. Peace should be the main concern of those who pay the highest price for the breakdown of its ordinary men, women and children who are the innocent victims. It will, of course, be naive to think that armed conflicts can be totally eliminated from all parts of the world within the foreseeable future. This cannot be achieved without eliminating the root causes. But what can be done is to ensure humane treatment to the innocent victims of these conflicts. The treatment of victims of war is one of the areas our Commission is examining. Historically, Islam has been a leader in the development of humanitarian law relating to war and peace. The Koran, the Hadith and the practice of Caliphs, from the beginning of Islam, have provided a code of conduct.

Mr. Chairman,

Islam is not just a religion based on articles of faith. It is a way of life and a complete code of social conduct. Its principles regulate not only the individual's spiritual life but also his daily life in family and in the community. In Islam, as in other religions, if the teachings were followed, this planet will be a safer and better place to live in.

Mr. Chairman,

There is not enough time to go into details of the role Islam as a religion can play in the process of peace building. The message I would like to leave with this distinguished gathering is that it is incumbent upon all of us to use our faith in the process of peace building. A constructive dialogue between religions will strengthen our faith in our common destiny. It will also undoubtedly show us that we have not only common problems but also common solutions. Their pursuit should be our common goal if we are to build a just and durable peace on earth.

Thank You

Randa Habib's Corner

Matching drives

If you are still single and looking for your future partner, then all you have to do is drive your car slowly in front of one of Amman's colleges at the end of class hours.

At least this is what so many young men are doing. If you happen to be near the 5th Circle at 1.30 p.m., take a turn through the street facing the Nursing School. You will find tens of future female nurses, coming out of their classes while tens of boys, in their latest models of cars, driving slowly in order to have an adequate view of the girls.

Of course the normal and daily result is a great traffic jam — but who cares? The same thing is happening in Shmeisani or in Jabel Luwelbdeh.

Near the Secretariat College at Jabel Luwelbdeh, the young ladies, the future secretaries, come out of the building and the future husbands are in the waiting, searching in the crowd for the woman of their dreams. Of course our students are aware of the attention they are provoking, and with a shy smile on the face and eyes pointed to the ground they speed on their way home.

Well, this seems to be the only way that most young people could meet. What a pity. After all the matching depends only on two things: The appearance of the girl and the make of the car.

What an unhealthy way to meet. People will always make partners; it is the law of nature. But why should young people meet this way? This, in my mind and in the minds of many people, is an uncivilised way of courting. People should not be judged by appearance or the make of their car. People should meet, talk, laugh and form real opinions on each other. Cars scrambling in front of schools create only confusion, pollution, accidents and a primitive expression of status.



"The most important goal is to protect the development of the next generation of children — both to defend the child's right to life and to invest in the progress of the poor world. For there is a fundamental connection between the physical and mental development of children and the social and economic development of their nations" — *The State of the World's Children 1986, UNICEF*

To help UNICEF help children buy UNICEF greeting cards, call 624571 or 668171.

Mud building: The Jordanian experience

The higher demand for housing and the rise in the cost of building materials during the last three decades prompted scientific and architects to look for and study traditional building methods. One such traditional method is building in mud. In the following article, the third in a series of three, Jordan Times reporter Najwa Najjar reviews the history, techniques and contemporary pioneers of building in mud.

AMMAN — Nowadays it is very rare to find earth architecture in Jordan. The present trend is to build in cement or stone. However, there exists a form which is native to Jordan mud building. At one time all houses in this area were constructed from raw earth. Building in mud, its whole tradition and process is Arabic. It can be traced back to Jericho, one of the earliest human settlements that have been discovered. The benefits of mud and the process involved are now almost forgotten. This is unfortunate, not only because of the advantages of mud buildings, but also because mud bricks are a traditional element in Arab architecture.

Last year this form of building was rediscovered. Amani and Hazem Malhas built Ali Ghandour's house/gallery at Shunneh in the Jordan Valley from raw earth. This was the first architecturally designed mud house which has been erected in Jordan and that first experience, for both Amani and Hazem, was pleasurable and a struggle at the same time.

Building a house of mud was more than a mere experiment for Amani Malhas the architect of the house and her brother, Hazem. Both feel that architecture represents the society's culture.

"What is said is that the architecture in our country is poor and does not relate to the past, present or future. Architecture reflects the social, economic, political and psychological situation of the people. It further is what remains after the people are gone. Therefore, I feel that it is important for young architects to go back to our culture and heritage to show that we have a background and that our culture is rich. If proper use is made of that source, we shall have something to pass onto future generations," said Hazem, who was the contracting engineer.

With these thoughts in mind they began their research. For six months they researched the traditional Arab mud building techniques. The process, the structural elements and the layout were studied, ironically enough, from Western books, even though most of the mud buildings exist in developing countries. Both Amani and Hazem were influenced by Mr. Hassan Fathy, a prominent Egyptian architect, who has played a main role in returning to the forms and methods of earth architecture.

One of the first things they had

to do was to find a masterbuilder, one who had previous experience with building in mud. It did not take Amani and Hazem as long as they expected to find Fadel. Fadel claims that he is the only masterbuilder left in Jordan.

Five labourers and Fadel used the process employed thousands of years ago. A dough-like mixture of soil, water, straw and cowdung is placed into a rectangular mould to produce 15x20x40 cm bricks. The bricks are left to dry for one month in the sun. The workers averaged 600 bricks a day. The 35,000 bricks required for the house were done in a little less than two months. However, from the time of excavation to completion, four months were needed.

The sun-dried bricks must rest on a stone foundation so they would not soak the moisture from the ground. "The construction method is to have the bricks interlocking. At a certain stage when we finished laying the foundation and building the structure, the house looked like ancient archaeological ruins, because the same construction methods were being used. We felt we were repeating the process that the Persians had used 2000 years ago, and the Romans even before them," said Hazem.

"The forms and shapes one can achieve with mud are inherent in the material," said Amani. "You cannot have square windows, they would not hold, so you must have arches. Earlier they used to put holes in the walls for windows. For roofing, domes, barrel vaults and wooden beams are what work. A square room must be fitted with a dome or wooden beams, a rectangular room with a barrel vault roof," she explained.

After plastering the structure with the dough-like mixture, the carpentry, electrical and mechanical work had to be done. For roofing they decided not to resort to anything foreign, so they used baked smaller abode bricks. Hazem had to experiment with the tiles, as he had to with the painting. "It was a struggle. We had to research and experiment everything. For example, when we painted the walls inside the house, they absorbed the paint. Consequently Hazem had to find some natural substance to saturate the walls with, and then apply the paint. Our experimenting meant a loss of two weeks time," said Amani.

Amani expressed some dis-



One of Jordan's rare mud houses in the Jordan Valley dating back to earlier years of the 20th century (File photo)

appointment over the lack of encouragement from the people in Jordan.

"My expectation was not to build all by myself, but to share my experience with architects and with students of architecture in Jordan, to have them co-operate with me and to motivate them to use traditional techniques. Some professors of architecture at the University of Jordan knew that a mud house was being built and where. However, very few students were informed, and it was only after it was finished that they learned about it. So the excitement was confined to us, to close friends and the Ghandours," he said.

On the other hand, the people in the Jordan Valley were very encouraging. "They were so excited about the house, they would come to watch and help. They expressed their desire to build with mud, but they do not have the time to make the bricks. It is much easier for them to buy readymade concrete blocks," said Amani.

It would be beneficial for the people in the Jordan Valley to return to the ancient process which is culturally and historically linked to Jordan's past. The low-cost technique may also solve several of their financial problems.

As for Jordan's urban areas, zoning poses some problems, because the use of any building material other than stone is forbidden in the capital, Amman, and other cities or major towns. In many areas of Jordan cement blocks are the only construction material used, but there are still many projects on the way, where mud bricks may be a viable solution.

"Museums, theatres, parks, government buildings, housing projects are being developed, to which more attention should be given. Well-designed, they can express our culture. There should be a higher degree of sensitivity for regional particularities and needs when we design these buildings. Awareness of the importance of architecture is a must. We have one of the oldest cultures, and one important means to show its sophistication is to reflect it in today's architecture," said Hazem.

CENTRAL TENDER No. 153/85

Construction of the Compulsory schools/ The Sixth Education Project

The contractors who had been qualified previously for the Sixth Education Project and willing to participate in the following bid are requested to get bid documents from the project directorate, Ministry of Education from 14/12/1985 with the following conditions:

1. The Sixth Education Project is partially financed by the International Bank for the Reconstruction and Development, and the compulsory schools were divided into ten groups and this tender buildings constitute the 4th group.

2. Description of the announced tender:

No. 153/85 which include the construction of compulsory schools at the following sites: Jerash, Jerash-Ajloun. With an area of 1,400m²

3. Prices of the documents and tender bond as follow:

Tender No.	Price	Tender Bond
153/85	JD 250	JD 50,000

4. Last date for receiving copy of tender is 19/1/1986.
5. Last date of submission of offers is 11 O'clock 26.1.1986 at the Department of Government Tender Directorate.

Chairman of the Central Committee
Director of the Government
Tendering Directorate.



Mr. Ali Ghandour's summer house in the Jordan Valley (File photo)

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Weakened Swedes hope to retain Davis Cup title

MUNICH, West Germany (AP) — Mats Wilander and Stefan Edberg will play singles for Sweden in the 1985 Davis Cup tennis final against West Germany this weekend, Swedish coach Hans Olsson said Wednesday.

Anders Jarryd, suffering from flu, remains a candidate for doubles, Olsson said. Jarryd was in bed for two days after the Swedish team arrived in the Bavarian capital and missed all training sessions.

He watched his teammates practice in Munich's Olympic Hall Wednesday but did not take part himself in the three-hour session.

"We hope that Jarryd will be able to play doubles. He is one of the best doubles players in the world and we would be very handicapped if he were unable to play," Olsson said.

"But his chances to play are not very good because he has not trained and he is still quite ill." "I am disappointed but I hope I can play at least doubles. Singles

would be too hard for me, I think," a dejected Jarryd said.

"But I believe in our team and I'm confident that we'll retain our Davis Cup title," Jarryd said.

Sweden has brought in Jan Gunnarsson as its fifth player, in case the team suffers any injuries.

Olsson said he had been considering Joakim Nystrom to play singles with Wilander. Nystrom beat Boris Becker at the U.S. Open after the teen-age West German scored his sensational victory at Wimbledon in July.

"I think Becker has a lot of respect for Nystrom but on this very fast surface Edberg has a slight edge," Olsson said.

The West German organisers have placed a carpet over a specially installed asphalt foundation in the Olympic Hall, hoping that the fast surface will give the hard-serving Becker an edge over the favoured Swedes.

Becker leads a West German team which is hoping to win the Davis Cup for the first time.

When the Swedes finished their training session, Becker took to

Sweden will likely do without the services of Anders Jarryd, who is suffering from influenza, in its Davis Cup final match against West Germany this weekend. Jarryd may still play doubles, but his number two singles slot behind Mats Wilander has been filled by Stefan Edberg, who won the Australian Open two weeks ago.

the court to exchange cannonball shots with his doubles and sparring partner, Slobodan Zivonjovic of Yugoslavia.

The two players blasted serves on the fast surface under the sup-



Greek hoop-players gain respect

By Stefan Fatsis
Associated Press Writer

ATHENS, Greece — Despite makeshift courts, undersized players and little money, Greece's national basketball team has reached the World Cup finals for the first time — thanks in part to a contingent of Greek-Americans.

Leading the way is the country's top player, 28-year-old Nick Galis, a naturalized Greek citizen who played college ball at Seton Hall. He scored 33 points as Greece beat Bulgaria 111-81 last month to become one of 24 qualifiers for the 1986 event in Spain.

The 1.84-metre guard who plays for Aris of Salonica has led the Greek league in scoring every year since he arrived in 1979. Along with about 15 other Greek-American players, Galis, of Union City, New Jersey, is credited with raising standards and stimulating interest in basketball here.

"We're starting to catch up with the rest of the world," Galis said.

"We beat France in World Cup qualifying. We played Yugoslavia and lost by a point. Greece is getting there," said Galis, who is sixth on Seton Hall's all-time scoring list with an average of 17 points a game.

Weekly television coverage and increased state funding for basketball have helped promote an amateur sport that still isn't played in most Greek high schools.

But Greece's 14-team first division is characterized by inadequate facilities, inexperienced coaches, undersized players and impoverished clubs.

"One problem the Greeks have is size. They're just not a very tall people," said David Stergakos Nelson, a 2-metre tall center from Montclair, New Jersey, who has played for Panathinaikos, the top Athens team, since 1978.

Greece also is one of the few European countries to ban foreigners from league play. The only exceptions are Greek-Americans, but even they must become Greek citizens to be considered for the national team.

The Greek-Americans in the 168-player first division draw bigger crowds to basketball games, but say they often have salary disputes with team management.

"You never know whether you'll get paid or not. You've always got problems with the team," Nelson said.

Greek clubs are plagued by chronic financial problems that prevent them from building new arenas that would attract enough fans to turn a profit.

"How are teams supposed to make money? From ticket sales? The arenas hold 500 or 1,000 people," said Michalis Kirinis, head coach of Panathinaikos, which plays on a concrete court covered with green plastic beneath a soccer stadium stand.

Aris, the league's top franchise, boasts one of Greece's three hardwood floors and draws about

5,000 fans a game. But one league source estimated the club will lose \$530,000 this season.

The imported players say Greek league play often is unorthodox by European and American standards, with games dominated by often wild-shooting guards at the expense of passing and defence.

But Greece is spending \$1.3 million this year, seven times more than in 1980, to develop coaching and playing talent.

"We're taking gradual steps to improve the sport. I think we're slowly earning our place in the European basketball community," national team coach Costas Politis said.

The Greek Basketball Federation is recruiting new players, from all over the country. Since 1981, more than 7,000 young Greeks aged 10 and up have signed with club teams.

PREQUALIFICATION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF HEALTH CENTRES AND NURSING

PARAMEDICAL INTEGRATED TRAINING INSTITUTE N.P.I.T.I. IN IRBID

INVITATION FOR BUILDING CONTRACTORS

Local Jordanian contractors classified in either general grade or first class (building) and contractors of the member countries of World Bank, Taiwan/China, and Switzerland, who would like to participate in being prequalified for the construction of:

1. Primary and comprehensive health centres.
2. N.P.I.T.I. in Irbid.

A. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The project consists of the following buildings:

- 25 centres (P.H.C.) of 370 sq. m. each.
- 2 Centres (C.H.C.) of 730 sq. m. each.
- 8 centres (C.H.C.) of 800 sq. m. each.
- 3 centres (C.H.C.) of 1000 sq. m. each.

The (38) centres are to be constructed on different sites.

The tenders for construction are sliced in (6) packages and shall be announced in sequence.

— N.P.I.T.I. in Irbid:

The project of 3 buildings, student residence of an area 5863 M2, staff residence of an area 285 M2 and the academic building of an area 3772 M2.

B. These projects are financed partially by the World Bank.

C. Prequalification forms may be obtained from the government tenders directorate-ministry of public works - Amman.

Starting 18th Dec. 1985.

Against a non-refundable of JD (25) for health centres, and JD (15) for N.P.I.T.I. The last date for obtaining forms shall be 2nd Feb. 1986.

- Fedic forms shall be used, and the prequalification submission shall include supporting documentation.
- Capital shall be quoted in U.S. dollars.
- Last date for submission of prequalification forms shall be 8th Feb. 1986.

D. Prequalification results will be announced, on 19th, Feb. 1986.

E. Any queries concerning prequalification shall be addressed to:

Chairman - Central Tenders Committee.
Ministry of Public Works.
P.O. Box (1220) Telex (21944) JO,
Amman - Jordan.

Director,
Government Tenders
Directorate.

WATER AUTHORITY OF JORDAN SALT SEWERAGE SYSTEMS CONTRACT S2/159/85

The Water Authority of Jordan invites experienced contractors from member countries of the World Bank, Switzerland, Taiwan and contractors in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan who have been classified as general, first and second class water and sewerage and general class buildings and roads contractors by the Ministry of Public Works of Jordan to submit bids for the supply and construction of the Salt Contract No. S2 Water and Sewerage Systems. The project consists of supply and construction of about 12 KM of sewers ranging in diameter between 150 to 200 MM. Foreign bidders are strongly recommended to associate with local contractors.

A prebid conference will be held on Tuesday Jan. 7th 1986 at 9:00 a.m. at the Water Authority Main Office in Amman.

On or before Jan. 7th 1986 contractors or joint ventures shall submit in sealed envelope or in person or by mail the information on their firm or firms of the joint venture requested in the instruction to bidders. The information will be evaluated and contractors will be informed whether or not to submit a bid.

The bids are due not later than 12:00 noon Jordan local time on Tuesday Feb. 11th 1986 at the Water Authority Main Office in Amman.

Contract documents may be examined and purchased at the following Address:

Water Authority, Jabal Hussein, Nabulus Street
P.O. Box 2412 Tel: 22439 WAJ JO Amman Jordan

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Eng. Mohammad Saleh Kellani

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OBITUARY

The Department of Antiquities, the Archaeological Institutes and the Friends of Archaeology in Jordan sadly announce the untimely death of:

Dr. Anthony Walter McNicoll

on 16 December 1985 in Sydney-Australia at the age of 42. Dr. McNicoll, who spent most of his career in Jordan, was co-director of the excavations at Tobagat Fahil-Pella in the Jordan Valley. He will be much missed by his friends and fellow archaeologists.

THE Daily Crossword by Alfio Micci

ACROSS

1. Lie
5. Are grates
10. Misplaced
14. Stupor
15. Tuscany's birthplace
16. Cupid
17. Popover
18. Indolent
20. Legal point
21. Copper
22. Indolent
23. At all
24. Calabazas
25. Firecracker
26. Hat features
29. Nucleic acid
33. Inclining
34. Goosey stuff
35. Prejudice
36. Ty Cobb
38. Evening in Rome
40. Glen
41. Memorable skater
42. Moss and moss
43. Baseball Rose
44. Pina
45. Saharan
46. Chaney
47. Flee a town
48. Come
50. Designer
51. Gannet
52. Agnus
54. Another
57. Breakfast fare
58. Add
59. Farm unit
60. Dispatch
61. Finnish lake
62. Shed

DOWN

1. Clotrix
2. Trust
3. Resale
4. Chum
5. Add
6. Wet
7. Weight allowance
8. "Yankes Doodle"
9. Cr. city
10. Vampire
11. Melville opus
12. Flee a town
13. Come
14. Card game
15. Mighty mite
16. Palmerio friends
17. Fall guy
18. Anesthetic
19. Stadium
20. Features
21. Water plant
22. Qi router
23. Laughing
24. Songwriter
25. Herb Brown
26. Wan
27. Rasp
28. Boracit
29. Ingredient
30. Make a wrong assessment
31. Of sound
32. Hammer part
33. Pamper
34. Easel
35. Kind of eclipse
36. Wane
37. Stable mother
38. even keel
39. Pro
40. Art
41. A Hine
42. "a man with..."
43. Hair
44. Teg's father

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Cinema
RAINBOW
Tel: 625155
SAVE WHAT WE CAN
(Arabic)
(Colour)
Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30

Cinema
AL-HUSSEIN
Tel: 622112
SAVE WHAT WE CAN
(Arabic)
(Colour)
Performances: 12:00, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00

Cinema
Philadelphia
Tel: 634144 - 634149
TRIP WITH THE TEACHER
(Colour)
Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:15

Cinema
RAGHADAN
Tel: 622198
L'ASSASSINO DI PIETRA
(Colour)
Performances: 12:00, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00

Cinema
OPERA
Adapted, behind Alfa offices
Tel: 675573
ADAM and EVE
(Colour)
Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30

IPI accuses Western leaders of double standards

LONDON (R) — The International Press Institute (IPI), watchdog of press freedom throughout the world, Wednesday accused Western leaders of double standards in calling for curbs on media coverage, particularly of guerrilla attacks.

"It has been a year when we have heard calls for the oxygen of publicity to be cut off and a year when South Africa moved to stave its own terrorists," IPI said in its review of World Press Freedom in 1985.

"It has also been a year of strange double standards. Democratic world leaders who advocated limited reporting raised an outcry when South Africa finally pulled the plug," it added.

"Should they not both be looking for solutions that get to the real root of the problems, rather than killing the messenger that brought the bad news?" it asked.

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher called for a voluntary code of restraint on coverage of terrorist attacks in July.

The Reagan administration voiced support for the idea.

The institute, which has its secretariat in London, said restrictions of reporting of guerrilla incidents could force gunmen to even greater excesses that could not be ignored.

"Experience has shown that silence builds up mystery and provokes the best breeding ground for violent action."

"When it comes down to it, are the hijackers and kidnappers really any different from the governments who suppress the news? They both deprive us of freedom: the freedom of liberty and the freedom of speech."

IPI groups 2,000 editors and publishers worldwide. Its report, which reviewed press

freedom in 64 countries, singled out for special criticism South Africa, which banned press coverage of black unrest in November, and the Philippines, where it said a guarantee of press freedom often came off worse against a tradition of bribery, corruption and intimidation in high places.

The report also highlighted attempts to curb press freedom in both Britain and the United States. "Perhaps the real reasons are to cover the fact that the government can't cope with their problems: Be they Cape riots or the sticky legacy of Northern Ireland. Censorship is a handy tool."

IPI said the Thatcher government was obsessed with secrecy.

In the United States, it said, "President Reagan's efforts to achieve further restrictions in 1985 met firm opposition from press and broadcast organizations," referring to administration attempts to weaken the Freedom of Information Act.

Congress I concedes defeat in Assam

DISPUR, India (Agencies) — Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's governing Congress I Party conceded defeat Wednesday in Assam state elections to a student-led, anti-immigrant party whose supporters danced in the streets in jubilation.

The party also suffered setbacks in other by-elections.

Although only 21 of the 125 Assam state legislative races had been decided by Wednesday morning, incomplete returns showed that the new Assam People's Front (APF) was leading in 44 constituencies and Congress in 19. Eleven of the 21 confirmed races went to APF and four of the seats were taken by Mr. Gandhi's party.

"We accept the people's verdict humbly," said Assam Chief Minister Hiteswar Saikia, who has headed the Congress Party state government since a turbulent 1983 election.

The mid-term Assam elections were called by Mr. Gandhi after he signed a settlement with APF President Prafulla K. Mahanta and other leaders of an anti-immigrant protest demanding the jettisoning of more than 1 million Bengali settlers who entered from a neighbouring Bangladesh.

The Congress Party suffered important setbacks in by-elections Monday in nine other Indian states. The special elections were to fill nine national parliamentary and seven state assembly vacancies caused by deaths and resignations.

Congress suffered an embarrassing defeat in Marxist-ruled West Bengal when former state chief Minister Siddhartha Shankar Ray lost a parliamentary race by a wide margin to a Communist leader.

Congress candidates for parliament and state assemblies in Bihar and Orissa states, but the party recovered some ground when Arjun Singh, Gandhi's co-nominee minister and former Punjab governor, won in New Delhi.

Five of the eight state assembly by-election results declared so far went to opposition candidates.

In Assam, most of the prominent Congress Party leaders lost or were heading for defeat. The only important party leader to prevail was Saikia, who retained the Nazim constituency and defeated (APF) Tanu Konwar.

APF's general secretary, Bhagun K. Phukan, was elected from the district of Jhalukbari, outside Dispur. Another important party leader, Anil Bora, won in Dispur, Assam's capital.

Deng: China must use Capitalism to modernise

PEKING (R) — China has to use Capitalist methods to help boost production but there will be no wavering from basic communist doctrine, top leader Deng Xiaoping was quoted Wednesday as saying.

The People's Daily overseas edition quoted Mr. Deng as saying that, for years after the Communists came to power in 1949, China's peasants, who form 80 per cent of the population, lacked food and were poorly dressed.

He said that a radical liberalisation of rural policies in the past five years, which resulted in record harvests and growing prosperity, had transformed the picture.

"Our reforms in the countryside have invigorated the economy," he said.

But he said that similar reforms in the cities, announced last year, were much more complicated, posed many more problems and would need five years to implement.

Mr. Deng, presiding over a reduction of Soviet-style central planning in favour of encouraging people to compete for business

and profits, acknowledged he was meeting resistance.

"People have expressed concern about these reforms. We will allow differences of opinion to exist and let experience resolve their doubts," he said.

A Western diplomat said Mr. Deng's remarks displayed a degree of candour which, though typical of him, was highly unusual among Chinese leaders.

Mr. Deng said there would be no wavering from the Socialist principle of the primacy of public ownership and wide distribution of wealth, to avoid great disparity in income.

Urban reforms have involved reducing controls on food prices, which have risen sharply as a result.

One of China's top economists, Xue Muqiao, wrote in the People's Daily that some city people were angry about the price rises in food and still yearned for the stable prices of the 1960s.

"Some comrades think stable prices and limited supply in that era showed the superiority of Socialism," he said. "This is wrong."

Castellano was killed 'for losing control of family'

NEW YORK (R) — Paul Castellano, "godfather" of the American mafia, was slain because he was losing control of the most powerful crime family in the United States, law enforcement officials say.

"He was just not functioning," John Hogan, head of the FBI's New York office, said Tuesday. "He was just not strong enough to handle the day-to-day business of his group."

Castellano, 73, and his right-hand man, Thomas Bilotti, 47, were cut down in a hail of bullets on Monday night as they got out of the mafia chief's limousine in midtown Manhattan.

The killers were three men in trench coats who pulled out semi-automatic pistols and pumped six shots into each man, killing both instantly.

For the last two months, Castellano, head of the Gambino crime family, had been on trial on charges of operating an international car-theft ring.

He had also been indicted in two related racketeering cases in which authorities called a major strike against organised crime.

Hogan told Reuters that Castellano had become "a liability due to his legal problems and his being in court every day."

James Harmon, head of President Reagan's Organized Crime Commission, said Castellano and Bilotti had also angered mob chieftains by talking too much on federal wiretaps.

"They provided much information to law enforcement when their conversations were bugged by the FBI," he said.

One of those wiretaps was in Castellano's own mansion — built to resemble the White House — on Staten Island.

Crime experts believe the stage was set for Castellano's killing when Aniello Dellacroce, the underboss of the Gambino family, died of cancer on Dec. 2. Dellacroce and Castellano had their own factions within the crime family, but the underboss managed to keep everyone in line.

When Dellacroce died, his protégé, John Gotti, wanted to become the second-in-command. But Castellano wanted Bilotti to have the post, thus creating a conflict, officials said.

Ugandan peace pact may lead to foreign aid

NAIROBI (R) — With the Ugandan military government and rebels finally signing a peace agreement aimed at ending years of bloodshed, Britain immediately pledged its readiness to help rebuild its former colony.

Political analysts said the prompt British reaction to the long-awaited pact was an indication that Western nations would rally to Uganda's aid if peace prevailed.

News of the signing Tuesday was greeted with joy and relief in Kampala, although few people are confident that the fighting will suddenly stop just because the pact calls for an immediate ceasefire.

Head of state Gen. Tito Okello received a hero's welcome when he returned to the capital, and security guards were unable to prevent large crowds from blocking his way as he returned from Entebbe Airport in an open car.

Under the peace agreement, the Ugandan government will invite four Commonwealth countries — Britain, Canada, Kenya, and Tanzania — to help form and train a new national army to replace the rival factions that make up the country's fighting forces at present.

British Junior Foreign Minister Malcolm Rifkind Tuesday welcomed the accord, and said if the ceasefire held, Britain would help in economic reconstruction and military training.

Britain and other Western countries suspended their aid programmes in Uganda because of internal turmoil.

The peace agreement noted that the record of the last 20 years had discouraged Western nations from giving aid.

"Any continuation of armed conflict, dictatorial rule, denial of human rights and fundamental freedoms prevent development in Uganda as well as positive international cooperation with friendly and brotherly countries," it said.

Clearly at the National Resistance Army (NRA) leaders' insistence, the pact calls for the punishment of soldiers who committed atrocities when President Idi Amin ruled Uganda from 1971 to 1979 and those guilty of similar crimes since Gen. Okello seized power last July.

The rebels say they are the only Ugandan fighting group that has not been involved in atrocities and have frequently called for such criminals to be brought to trial.

Romania dismisses defence minister

VIENNA (R) — Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu has announced that Defence Minister Constantin Olteanu had been relieved of his duties, the official News Agency Agerpres said.

The agency, monitored in Vienna, said he would be succeeded by his former first deputy and chief of staff Vasile Milea.

Mr. Ceausescu, speaking at a meeting of a high-level army group, was quoted as saying that Olteanu should transfer to party activity.

Last week, Olteanu had talks with his Soviet counterpart Sergei Sokolov in Moscow. Soviet state television reported. But details about the visit were scant.

Olteanu's move was the latest in a series of political changes in Bucharest. Agerpres also said Marin Enache had been named metallurgy minister in place of Nicolae Agachi who would move to other, unspecified duties.

Earlier Tuesday the agency reported the creation of a new food ministry, to be headed by George Pana, to combat chronic food shortages.

Last month, Foreign Minister Stefan Andrei was replaced by the little-known Ilie Vaduva but he was later named one of 10 powerful Communist Party secretaries.

Australians lose drugs death appeal in Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — Malaysia's supreme court threw out appeals Wednesday by two Australians facing the gallows for drug smuggling but their government said it would seek clemency.

Perth welder Kevin Barlow and Sydney building contractor Brian Chambers, both 28, stood pale and so bere in the dock as the country's highest judge dismissed their appeals and upheld the convictions, which carry a mandatory death penalty.

Their last recourse is to the state parsons board of Western Penang, where they were arrested in November 1983 with 180 grammes of heroin. If that fails, they will be the first Westerners to hang in Malaysia for trafficking.

Lord President Tun Salleh Abbas said the amount of heroin they had when trying to leave for Kuala Lumpur was well above the 15 grammes limit needed for conviction.

Salleh and supreme court judges Tan Sri Eusuff Abdoolcader and Datuk George Seah were unanimous in their verdict, delivered to a packed court in central Kuala Lumpur.

Barlow later broke down and cried, saying guilt had been assumed from the start.

The judges brushed aside arguments by the men's lawyers that the judge who convicted them on July 26 erred in drawing damning inferences from circumstantial evidence about the bag in which the drugs were found.

Other argument turned on the credibility of the arresting officer's testimony and on whether Barlow and Chambers had acted with "common purpose" in trafficking in the drugs.

At their trial Barlow and Chambers each blamed the other but the trial and appeal judges ruled they had planned and acted in concert.

In Sydney, Foreign Minister Bill Hayden said Australia would ask for the sentences to be commuted on humanitarian grounds.

An Australian government statement said there was no justification for taking away life as a punishment by matter how serious an offence.

Jeath, no matter how serious the offence.

Malaysia has hanged 32 drug convicts since 1975 including South East Asian nationals and seventeen foreigners are among 59 people now on death row. Four Australians are in pre-trial detention or serving long jail terms for drugs offences.

Malaysia, long been a transit point for drugs from the Golden Triangle straddling Laos, Burma and Thailand, has vowed to mete out equal punishment to local and foreign drug offenders. It has more than 100,000 registered drug addicts.

Barlow and Chambers' lawyers Karpal Singh and Rashid Rajasingam were assisted by Australian lawyers Frank Galbally and Ron Cannon. Galbally left for Australia Tuesday night after Karpal failed in an attempt to have him charged with contempt.

Galbally had to apologise to the court after Karpal told the judges he had said "blame it on your bloody system" during an argument over bringing fresh grounds of appeal.

Cannon said in a statement he was disappointed that the appeal had been rejected but had no complaint about the appeal process.

"Nor can I complain that travellers to Malaysia are not warned about the death penalty for drug trafficking. I hope this case is a warning to other Australians. We cannot expect leniency in the future," he said.

Mr. Hayden said Australia was seeking grounds for commutation on humanitarian grounds now that all legal avenues had been exhausted.

"As a personal note, I have always been and remain firmly opposed to capital punishment and accordingly I will be pressing the presentation of this appeal for clemency with a great sense of urgency," Mr. Hayden told reporters.

Crash probe finds thrust reverser improperly engaged

WASHINGTON (R) — The improper engagement of a device that reverses an engine's thrust to slow it down may have caused last week's plane crash in Ganer, Newfoundland, U.S. aviation industry sources have said.

The device, called a thrust reverser, is mounted on the engine and slows down the plane by directing engine thrust toward the front of the craft. It is usually turned on when a plane lands.

The sources said Canadian investigators at the crash site found that one of the chartered Air Canada DC-8's four thrust reversers was in the engaged position although the plane had just taken off.

"The key question is, when did that occur," said one industry source close to the investigation. "Did it occur before takeoff, in flight, or after impact? If it occurred in flight, it could have caused the plane to lose speed and veer to the right."

Canadian Aviation Safety Board investigators said that the plane's flight recorder showed that the jet had taken off normally but then lost speed and veered to the right just before crashing. This would be consistent with the engagement of a thrust reverser.

All 256 people aboard the jet — 248 U.S. soldiers returning from a peacekeeping mission in the Middle East and eight crew — were killed.

Canadian Aviation Safety Board spokeswoman Christiane Beaulieu said Tuesday that the thrust reverser was just "one of many, many areas of concern we are looking into."

"All these areas will be carefully looked into," Beaulieu said. "It is premature at this time to say whether the thrust reverser played a role in the crash or not."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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THE SCISSORS COUP

North-South vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♦ Q106
♦ A K J
♦ A 8 7 5
♦ 9 6 3

WEST
♦ A 5
♦ Q 8 7 6 4 2
♦ 9 8
♦ Q 8 5 4

EAST
♦ 7
♦ 10 9 5 3
♦ Q 6 4 3 2
♦ A 10 7

SOUTH
♦ K J 9 8 4 3 2
♦ Vaid
♦ K J 10
♦ K J 2

The bidding:
North East South West
1 0 Pass 1 4 3 0
Dble 3 4 Pass
Pass 5 4 Pass
Dble Pass 5 4 Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Nine of ♣.

Bridge terminology is graphic. Some of it is borrowed from sports: some of it, according to Ely Culbertson, has sexual overtones. When you sever communications between defenders by sacrificing a trick you don't need to lose, it is known as a "Scissors Coup." Here's an example from the Spring North American Championships, held in Montreal.

Taking advantage of the favorable vulnerability, East-West were busy in the auction. Note that five hearts doubled would have

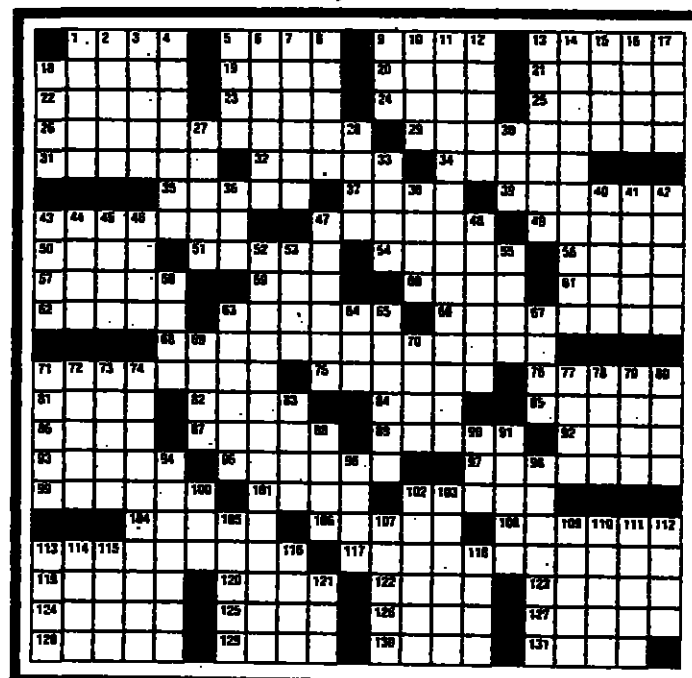
been set only three tricks for 500 points—a good save against the vulnerable game that North-South can make. Not surprisingly, however, South thought better of his hand for offensive rather than defensive purposes, so he pulled to five spades. Unfortunately, so much of the opener's strength was in the opponents' suit that the final contract was perilous.

West led his singleton diamond and the declarer, Joe Stepanovic of Worcester, Massachusetts, saw that there was a danger of losing the two black aces and a diamond ruff. Since West's lead was almost surely a singleton, South realized he couldn't afford to start on trumps—it was certain that East would be able to gain the lead in one of the black suits to give his partner a ruff.

Since there was a shortage of entries to dummy, declarer temporarily gave up on the chance of a free finesse in diamonds in favor of winning the ace. On the ace-king of hearts he shifted two of his clubs, then led the jack of hearts. When East played low, declarer stuffed his last club. Now the defenders could get no more than the ace of spades, for West had no way to get to his partner's hand for a diamond ruff. Later in the play declarer crossed to the table with a trump to take the diamond finesse for his contract.

THE WEEKEND CROSSWORD

Edited by Herb Ertman

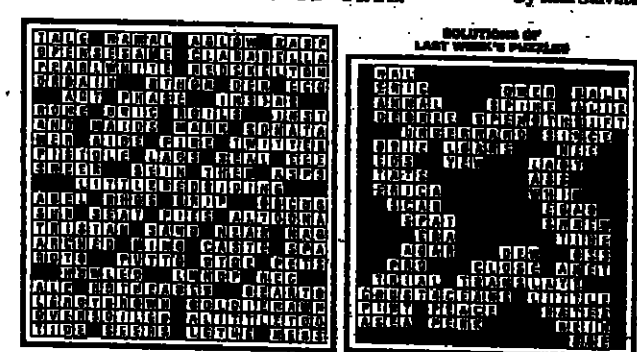


Last Week's Cryptograms

1. Betwined by hysterical boys boarding bus, busy bus driver believes intelligently. Brownhead boys believe, bus driver believes.
2. Even when the climate is best the weather can at times be vile.
3. Expert expert expected excellent cash exchange for perfect goods.
4. Old goose laid golden eggs in garden nest, got golden's egg.

CRYPTOGRAMS

1. RWICS ONTPSEXTY RWS IOGPNICIZ JCBS, SHWSEGC IQZ, NTS UCZ JS QTNRT HN SUH G FSSO, PGCU IXW. —By Alvin B. Lebar
2. UGRATD EERO DGE XGMNXY IGUEX IGGHO YJA ZNQ YJAG GDZ XGMNXYAR INOAINMN XNTO. —By Barbara J. Rugg
3. FRIENDLYX FOXY NOLARE DLA DEEPFFP, ADYE DBB EOXYFFRFX. —By Ed Huddleston
4. EYRTYIN PH FEMCI VBECB ATEPOURH PE HBV ERDPH YTI ORMAEAE ARMAE ARMEIN WROYD WZRYGBOU YS GRZZ. —By Rita Salvato



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